



Community Transition Services (CTS) Stakeholder Work Group Meeting

Discussion Questions/Feedback

February 3, 2022 – Virtual Meeting

Introductions

Share a few words to describe your hopes for 2022.



Wrap Up Activity

Based on what you listed as challenges/barriers and services/supports needed, please identify where you see current gaps in services or supports with Esperanza and her Family.

- Funding
- The young person needs to be connected with housing and employment prior to discharge from DCYF.
- Non-traditional forms of care. More culturally responsive forms of support and care.
- Have to have the people in the community to have the conversations and encourage Esperanza who are good working with young people.
- Organizations and systems that operate from youth voice and direction.
- Affordable housing options, whether it is for the young person living on their own, or for adequate space for the family.
- Non-traditional family therapy and mental health support options.
- Investment in support programs that look like the families they are serving and understand the cultural realities.

Based on what you listed as challenges/barriers and services/supports needed, please identify where you see current gaps in services or supports with Esperanza and Use of her Free Time.

- Affordable activities
- Variety of activities
- Education opportunities



- Consistency of guiding hand
- Mentor to experience different activities and opportunities. Funds to do that. Opportunity to explore what the young person enjoys.
- Safe places for so many marginalized and traumatized youth. Wellness centers or just places to be.
- Spaces like in Portland that are co-led, co-designed and the money goes back into the community. Something that is run and operated by folks with lived experiences.
- Folks to help youth dream big.

Based on what you listed as challenges/barriers and services/supports needed, please identify where you see current gaps in services or supports with Esperanza and her Relationships.

- Mentoring diversity
- Same as the first page regarding culturally responsive and aware therapy and mental health supports.
- Compensate mentors
- Investment in the folks that are already in communities like aunties and community leaders.

Based on what you listed as challenges/barriers and services/supports needed, please identify where you see current gaps in services or supports with Esperanza and her Mental Health.

- Peer mentor and wrap around services.
- The cost of achieving a degree in mental health/psychology is exorbitant. less school and occupational psychologists creates more need

Based on what you listed as challenges/barriers and services/supports needed, please identify where you see current gaps in services or supports with Esperanza and her Attitudes/Behaviors.

- Mentors peer/natural/formal
- Mentorship and peer mentorship.
- More opportunities for co-regulation opportunities.
- Opportunities and programs that don't have unrealistic expectations.
- Motivation from others and from self
- Organizations and places that understand different behaviors and are willing to be understanding and working with rather than kicking folks out when they do something they don't like.
- Scarcity in opportunities means folks should be grateful and do whatever they are asked, rather than programs being asked to be more accepting of behaviors meeting needs.

Based on what you listed as challenges/barriers and services/supports needed, please identify where you see current gaps in services or supports with Esperanza and her Living Arrangements.

- Funding and affordable housing opportunities.
- Financial literacy training
- Community centered housing that isn't run be government, but managed by trusted leaders in the community.
- Use churches as resources for young people who may need housing, but housing is not available.
- Consistency
- Life skills education
- Religious affiliated housing supports.
- Housing WITHOUT restrictions.
- Funding!

Based on what you listed as challenges/barriers and services/supports needed, please identify where you see current gaps in services or supports with Esperanza and Employment.

- Smaller intimate work relationships
- Employers willing to hire young people with criminal history.



- Specific job training that interests the youth.
- Employment opportunities that are stable while youth in DCYF.
- Coaching for career development.
- Higher wage jobs (livable wages)
- Mentors in job settings.

Based on what you listed as challenges/barriers and services/supports needed, please identify where you see current gaps in services or supports with Esperanza and her School.

- Culturally responsive education
- Continued connection with home school district throughout stay in JR and deeper connection starting 6-months out of release date.
- Youth centered pedagogy
- Alternative education programs that are specific to a young persons needs.
- Schools that work with different learning styles and are more community learning centered rather than individualistic.

Based on what you listed as challenges/barriers and services/supports needed, please identify where you see current gaps in services or supports with Esperanza and her skills.

- Creativity
- Life skills coaches/mentors.
- Skills need to actually be taught
- Ability for youth to dream and get support in their dreams.

Meeting Closing

Overall, I felt today's meeting was productive and a good use of my time.

(rate 1 (lowest) – 5 (highest))

4 out of 5 with 3 responses